

REMARKS

Summary of Office Action

Claims 1-35 were pending in this application.

Claims 1-6, 12, 13-16, 19-23, and 25-35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Schein et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,002,394 ("Schein").

Claims 7-10, 11, 17, and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schein in view of Ward et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,756,997 ("Ward").

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schein in view of Moncreiff U.S. Patent No. 5,828,839 ("Moncreiff").

Summary of Applicants' Reply

Applicants have amended independent claim 1 to more particularly define the claimed invention. Dependent claim 12 has been canceled without prejudice. No new matter has been added and the amendments are fully supported by the original specification (see, e.g., p. 9, l. 12 to p. 10, l. 5, p. 14, ll. 15-18, p. 19, ll. 13-18, Fig. 9).

The Examiner's rejections of claims 1-11 and 13-35 are respectfully traversed.

The Rejection of Claims 1-11 and 13-35

Claims 1-6, 13-16, 19-23, and 25-35 were rejected as being anticipated by Schein. Claims 7-10, 11, 17, and 24 were rejected as being unpatentable over Schein in view of Ward. Claim 18 was rejected as being unpatentable over Schein in view of Moncreiff. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants' claimed invention, as recited in amended independent claim 1, is directed to an Internet television program guide system for providing television program listings with embedded real-time data (e.g., sports scores, news, weather, and highlights (p. 9, ll. 16-18)) to a user at a multimedia system over an Internet communications link. A computer system provides television program listings with embedded real-time data to a web server. When a user accesses the television program listings with embedded real-time data, the web server provides the television program listings with embedded real-time data to the multimedia system. The multimedia system includes computer readable media for "automatically displaying said embedded real-time data with said television program listings without user input" (independent claim 1, emphasis added).

For example, applicants' FIG. 9 illustrates a time page having program listings. A program listing (e.g., Knicks Vs. Bulls game) having associated embedded real-time data (e.g., the current score 43:42) has the embedded real-time data displayed adjacent to the program title. (see, e.g., p. 9, l.12 to p. 10, l. 5, and p. 19, ll. 13-18).

The Examiner contends that Schein shows all of the features of applicants' claim 1. In particular, the Examiner points to col. 4, ll. 17-23, col. 6, ll. 46-47, col. 19, ll. 66 - col. 20, ll. 4-5, col. 20, ll. 12-17, col. 20, ll. 3-7, and col. 20, ll. 7-9 and 18-21 of Schein (Office Action, p. 2, Paragraph 2).

Broadly speaking, Schein describes "systems and methods for allowing the viewer to retrieve, search, select and interact with television schedule information located in a remote database, computer network or on-line service..." (col. 1, ll. 19-24).

In one approach in Schein, a television program title or a program's content is contextually linked to an on-line service or to an available database. The user can select to link, search, select, or initiate a subscription to more information associated with that program. (col. 14, ll. 53-61). For example, as shown and described in connection with

FIG. 17B, a Program InfoMenu corresponding to a currently tuned program may be displayed. The Program InfoMenu includes a Linked Service option, which the user may select to receive contextually linked services related to that program. (col. 22, ll. 41-63).

In another approach in Schein, television schedule information from a database is used to provide information independent of the user's program choice. From a television schedule guide, the user may press a Services button on a remote control to receive menu choices including News, Weather, Sports, Scores, Financial Data, and Local Traffic. The user can further select an area or title of interest from the menu choices in order to receive associated information from the database. (col. 14, ll. 33-52 and col. 17, l. 35 to col. 18, l. 6).

Although applicants' claimed invention may generally implicate the subject matter of Schein, applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, as amended, patentably improves upon Schein by providing a multimedia system having the feature of "automatically displaying said embedded real-time data with said television program listings without user input." (independent claim 1, emphasis added).

For at least the foregoing reason, independent claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-11 and 13-35, which depend from independent claim 1, are also allowable for at least the reason that independent claim 1 is allowable. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 1-11 and 13-35 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

The foregoing demonstrates that claims 1-11 and 13-35 are allowable. This application is therefore in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are accordingly respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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